

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all previous version or listing of the claims:

Claims 1-55 canceled.

56. (new) A percutaneous apparatus, comprising:
an elongated percutaneous electrode having a first sharp end, and an opposite second end with first and second segments, the first and second segments being configured to resiliently return toward a neutral position, the first and second segments configured to form a bend therebetween so that at least part of the first segment faces toward at least part of the second segment; and
a coupling member having an aperture, the aperture having an electrically conductive portion, the aperture being sized to removably receive the first and second segment so that the second end contacts the electrically conductive portion.
57. (new) The percutaneous apparatus of claim 56, wherein the aperture has a diameter smaller than the space between the first and second segments.
58. (new) The apparatus of claim 56, wherein the first segment and the second segment are formed from a single conductive member.
59. (new) The apparatus of claim 56, wherein the percutaneous electrode includes a resilient, conductive material with at least one of the first and second segments being

movable relative to the other, and wherein the conductive material has a first configuration when the at least part of the first segment is spaced apart from the at least part of the second segment by a first distance, the conductive material further having a second configuration with the at least part of the first segment spaced apart from the at least part of the second segment by a second distance less than the first distance, the conductive material being elastically changeable from the first configuration to the second configuration.

60. (new) The apparatus of claim 56, further comprising:
a housing with the percutaneous electrode movably received in the housing; and
an attachment device coupled to the housing and releasably coupleable to a recipient's skin.

61. (new) The apparatus of claim 56, wherein
the first and second segments and the bend form a button hook shape that is
removably receiveable in the aperture of the coupling member.

62. (new) The apparatus of claim 56, wherein
the second end of the electrode being configures to form multiple bends, and each of
said bends having first and second segments facing one another.

63. (new) A percutaneous apparatus, comprising:
a percutaneous electrode having a first sharp end and an opposite second end with
first and second segments, at least part of the first segment being aligned along an axis, at

least part of the second end being offset from the axis, the first and second segments being configured to form a bend so that the first and second segments face one another; and

a coupling member having an aperture, the aperture having an aperture wall with at least a portion of the aperture wall being electrically conductive, the aperture being sized to removably receive the first and second segments, and at least one of the first and second segments being in contact with the electrically conductive portion of the aperture wall.

64. (new) The apparatus of claim 63, wherein the percutaneous electrode includes a resilient, conductive material with at least one of the first and second segments being movable relative to the other, and wherein the conductive material has a first configuration when the at least part of the first segment is spaced apart from the at least part of the second segment by a first distance, the conductive material further having a second configuration with the at least part of the first segment spaced apart from the at least part of the second segment by a second distance less than the first distance, the conductive material being elastically changeable from the first configuration to the second configuration.

65. (new) The apparatus of claim 63, wherein the first and second segments and the bend form a button hook shape that is removably receiveable in the aperture of the coupling member.

66. (new) The apparatus of claim 63, wherein the second end of the electrode being configures to form multiple bends, and each of said bends having first and second segments facing one another.

67. (new) A percutaneous apparatus, comprising:
a percutaneous electrode having opposite first and second ends, the second end having first and second segments, the first segment being aligned along a first axis, a part of the second segment being aligned along a second axis offset from the first axis, and the first and second segments being configured to define an approximately 180 degree bend therebetween; and

a coupling member having an aperture, the aperture having an aperture wall with at least a portion of the aperture wall being electrically conductive, the aperture being sized to removably receive the first and second segments of the percutaneous electrode and the approximately 180 degree bend being in contact with the electrically conductive portion of the aperture wall.

68. (new) The apparatus of claim 67, wherein
the first and second segments and the bend form a button hook shape that is removably receiveable in the aperture of the coupling member.

69. (new) The apparatus of claim 67, wherein
the second end of the electrode being configures to form multiple bends, and each of said bends includes first and second segments facing one another.